

'ROUNDABOUT THE STATE.

Gleaned from Exchanges--Made by the Shears, the Pencil and the Paste Pot--Some Original, Some Credited, and Some Stolen, but Nearly All Interesting Reading.

Out of eighty-four school districts in Bollinger county, all but eight have adopted free text books.

Camp fire girls at Wellsville have a standing offer of five cents a hundred for swatted flies--that is, until the money gives out.

Enthusiastic over the prospects for oil in Texas county, an Illinois man is planning to drill near Raymondville a 3,000-foot well.

A Richmond mail carrier has received from California an order for twenty or thirty young paw-paw trees and fifty pounds of seed.

The Southeast Missouri Rural Letter Carriers Association will meet at Campbell Tuesday, May 30th. All letter carriers are urged to attend this meeting.

With the recent finding of zinc, lead and coal near there, the Cabool Press sees no reason why the town should not become something of a mining center.

A bit backward about bragging usually, Mercer can't help pointing with pride to the fact that in one week merchants there shipped out eggs to the value of \$3, \$544.70.

A bronze drinking fountain has been presented to Charleston by the Woman's Christian Temperance Union. It was dedicated with appropriate ceremonies one day last week.

One hundred years ago this month the first log cabin was built in Louisiana by John Bryson. The city is trying to arrange some sort of a celebration to celebrate the event.

Benton county has a wooden bridge built in 1849, which is in such good condition that it was not ruined when some miscreant recently attempted to blow it up with dynamite.

Three large barns on the farm of E. H. Salisbury, in Adair county, burned last week. Forty-four head of fine cattle and nineteen horses perished in the flames. The loss is \$33,000 with \$15,000 insurance.

Present information indicates that the water melon acreage in Southeast Missouri will be increased nearly one-third this year. Near Blodgett, there are 3000 acres sowed, with the young plants coming up nicely.

Conductor L. T. Smith of the Rock Island railroad will be pensioned May 23, for he has served his time with the company. We hate to see Conductor Smith leave this run and will miss his face at the Rushville station. Rushville News.

Because he believes a horse for which he traded as an 8-year-old has seen no less than a dozen summer, a Johnson county man prays for relief at the of the courts by charging that the man with whom he traded obtained money under false pretenses.

The injunction suit of Cape Girardeau County against the Little River Drainage District to prevent the latter from cutting across country roads without building bridges over the cuts has been decided by Judge Kelly favorable to the county. An appeal has been taken.

How it got there was the question none could answer when a Gentry county sawyer found a three-pronged pitchfork imbedded in the heart of a maple log he was sawing into stove lengths. The only tenable theory is that someone left the fork in the crotch of the tree when it was young, and that it grew around it.

"Some women can't help but be cats," one of the sex told the Independence Examiner the other day at a church luncheon. When a lunch consisting of chicken salad, hot potatoes, biscuit, raspberry ice and coffee was served for 15 cents, one woman complained loudly because the biscuits did not suit her.

Mr. Mahony, of Stoddard county, said to be the most successful farmer in Southeast Missouri, don't own any land and don't want to buy any. He says he can rent land at less than the annual interest on the money invested in the land, and finds it more profitable to use his surplus money in buying up-to-date machinery.--New Madrid Record.

There is a mine in Madison county which is owned by a citizen of Canada, and he has held it nearly six years. Under the state law, no alien can hold a piece of property which he has obtained by foreclosure under a mortgage for more than six years, and the Canadian will soon have to do something or loose the mine.

Former State Game Warden Jess Tolerton has again come into the limelight. This time he has been sued by Judge Arch Johnston of Springfield for some things Jess is alleged to have said about the Judge in the recent city campaign in Springfield. Tolerton gained fame a few years ago by trying to stock the state with pheasants.

Frank Smith, the shoemaker, in a temporary fit of aberration slashed his throat with a shoe knife in his shoe shop Saturday morning. Physicians dressed the wounds which would have resulted fatally had the knife been pressed close to the jugular vein. Frank had been drinking heavily and to this is attributed his act.--East Prairie Eagle.

John Pitman, a negro degenerate with a long police record, was fatally shot Saturday evening at the Brookfield fire barn by Harry Hamilton, a white man and driver for the fire department. Pitman died an hour or so later, having received three bullets in his head and body, and one in his hand.

In a toy mine which three Dade county brothers, from seven years to 10 years old operate on a six-foot lot on their father's leasehold, the "real stuff" was struck at a depth of 21-2 feet. The youngsters have done all the work themselves, and their shaft is equipped with a hand hoist with a one-gallon bucket for a tub. Five wash tubs were filled with silicate, and when they received a check for \$21.40 for their output they agreed that it was a pretty fine way to play.

A manganese prospect four miles northeast of Winona has been reopened and a car load of the ore is about ready for shipment. Recently a car of manganese sold in Pittsburg for \$1,000 a ton. Manganese went begging for \$38 a ton at the time the war broke out in Europe, but now the supply does not nearly equal the demand.

An election was held in Wayne county recently to vote a \$200,000 bond issue for the construction of good roads which carried almost 5 to 1. This shows progressiveness on the part of citizens of that county and should be followed by other Southeast Missouri counties for nothing speaks so well for a community as that of good roads.

It wasn't his cap going off that made the noise, but when George Betts of Jefferson City picked up his brimless head covering he realized that he had had a close call. Mr. Betts is an express company employe, and in taking some papers from his desk displaced a .44-caliber pistol, a shell of which exploded, the bullet tearing the beak from his office cap.

Fords should be unusually numerous in the town of Parnell in the next few months if the story that a car-load of tin cans will make a Ford and then get \$11.65 in cash, is true. Tin can day, which was managed by the Willing Workers, proved most successful, and the total of cans in the pile at 11 o'clock, when the contest closed, was 11,142, and 1,000 were brought in after that time.

Agility often accompanies old age, as in the case of J. B. Brashears, aged 82, and J. T. Keithly, aged 63. Mr. Keithly, feeling his youth last week, made Mr. Brashears a foot-race proposition, giving Mr. Brashears half the distance of forty yards, and then to beat him running to a certain point. Mr. Keithly misjudged Mr. Brashears' speed, for the latter covered more ground in the time than did the former.--Center Herald.

Dan Rhodus has a country ham hanging in his smokehouse at his home near Mosby which was cured by his father in 1879--thirty-four years ago, which is plump and of fine appearance, although seemingly solid as a rock. Lucky is a man who has ham meat in sufficient quantity that he can preserve one that length of time. A town fellow would have had it in the oven about the second year, anyhow.--Liberty Tribune.

Proximity to Kansas City makes every Saturday just like carnival day in Liberty. For instance, on a recent Saturday there were three groups of religious workers holding services on the streets, two medicine barkers, a long-haired man trying to convince the people that prohibition is not taught by the Scriptures, a three minute photographer, a razor and silverware salesman and a tent skating rink.

A unique plan to speed up the volunteer fireman has been adopted at Higginsville where a silver dollar is placed at fire headquarters, and the first member to arrive there after an alarm is given is entitled to the prize. A boy imitated the fire whistle so perfectly the other day two members of the volunteer company did a foot race to headquarters and when the winner of the race learned of the hoax, he refused to surrender the coin.

The season will open for squirrel shooting the first day of June. Those who hunt without a license are liable to a fine of twenty-five dollars. A license costs one dollar, and it is better to invest a dollar for a license than to run the risk of being caught and fined.

Five thousand strawberry pickers, men, women and large boys and girls, are wanted in Newton county it is said, to harvest the bumper strawberry crop. The rate for picking is 13-4 cents a quart, and industrious workers can make from \$2.50 to \$3 a day, it is said.

There is another entry in the 80-year-olds scheduled for the Elmer reunion. The latest man to announce that he will contest in the dash is Edward Richardson, 91 years old, and willing to race any distance from a hundred yards to a mile.

Twenty-two hours a day has been the work schedule for the woolen mill at California since last fall, with no apparent decrease of output in sight. An important item manufactured there is cloth which sporting goods houses utilize in making baseball players' uniforms.

The Mound City Mill company has received an order to furnish the hospital for the insane at Clarinda with 7,000 pounds of corn meal, making a total of 20,000 pounds furnished this institution within a few months. The mill is working day and night.

Some fellow "down East" has undertaken the task to "humanize" business letters, and an Ozark editor wonders how this world benefactor will be able to write: "If we do not receive your remittance by return mail we shall place this account in the hands of our legal department."

A Kansas City civil engineer last week completed a survey of what is known as Mud Lake, south of Beverly. The survey of the lake and surrounding land was made for A. E. Lombard of Kansas City, who owns about 1000 acres. The lake at present contains about 600 acres. These lowlands lay between the Burlington and Rock Island railroads, and when drained will be some of the finest farming lands in the United States. The drainage ditch will be cut through to Bee creek or south into Maupin creek.

Sunday afternoon an unknown man was run over and instantly killed at the crossing in the yard at Farnfeld. He appeared to be about 60 years old, but there were no papers or anything else on him by which he could be identified. He is supposed to have gotten on the train at Delta. He was seen to throw a suitcase out of a box car and then attempted to jump out himself, he landed on his feet but fell back under the train, he was literally cut to pieces, the wheels passing over his stomach, he was also scalped and his arms and legs broken. He was neatly dressed and had good clothes in his suitcase but not a scratch that would lead to his identity. He was about 5 feet 4 inches tall, dark hair, no teeth and about 60 years old. The train, which was a Cotton Belt freight, in charge of Conductor Easley, was just coming into the yards and was not going over 4 miles an hour. A coroner's jury returned a verdict of accidental death; he had some he had some money in his pocket.--Illmo Implicite.

Care of The Teeth Important To Good Health

How many people realize the important part played in the preservation of the health by good teeth? First, good teeth are necessary for the proper mastication of the food. When they are aching or sore, this cannot be accomplished. Second, decayed teeth lead to abscesses of the gum and different disease. Abscesses along the roots of the teeth harbor numerous kinds of germs which are mixed in with the food during the act of chewing, carried to the digestive tract and often spread to various parts of the body.

The disease known as pyorrhea, which has attracted so much attention in the last few years, is widespread, and is often the cause of a persistent discharge of pus into the mouth.

It has been proved also that many cases of neuritis and pains about the feet and joints, which are often mistaken for rheumatism, are due to bad teeth and abscesses about the roots of the teeth. The teeth should be examined by a competent dentist every six months, or at least once every year, says Dr. M. P. Ravenel of the department of preventive medicine at the University of Missouri, Columbia. In the meantime, proper cleansing of the mouth daily is of prime importance. The teeth should be cleaned after each meal, but especially before going to bed.

The use of waxed floss silk, which can be bought at any drug store, is to be recommended. This is passed between the teeth, taking care not to cut the gum. A small amount of brushing with a clean tooth brush should follow.

Tooth washes and tooth powders are to be recommended, but care should be used in their selection. Never use a tooth powder, the grit of which can be felt between the fingers. The common prepared chalk is one of the best materials for this purpose. It is commonly mixed with powdered white castile soap to give the soap-like feeling which most people desire.

Selection of the tooth brush should be made with care. It shouldn't be too large or too stiff. As soon as the bristles begin to come out or break off, the brush should be discarded, for these bristles stick into the gums and open the way for the penetration of disease producing germs with the formation of abscesses along the root of the teeth. It is best always to have several brushes, never using the same one twice running. In this way, each brush is allowed to become thoroughly dry before it is used again. The brush should be thoroughly washed in hot water and sunned for several hours at a time. In this way it can be kept clean and sweet.

Do not wait for pain in the teeth and jaws before consulting a dentist. In no case is the advice of "prevention being better than cure" more marked than in the care of the teeth.

A young farmer sold a pair of mules to buyers for \$500. The buyers took them to Higginsville, and the former owner saw the animals after they had been sheared and asked how much profit the buyers expected to make. He was told \$15. He paid the money, together with the check of \$500, and took the mules back home with him.

A tall man with the air of a westerner stopped near an electric light at a cigar stand in the Union Station. Something on the front of his coat glistened. A clerk glanced at the object and gasped. On his coat were four \$20 gold coins in place of buttons. When the man unbuttoned his coat and reached for his change pocket, six \$10 gold pieces on the front of his vest took the place of buttons. Three \$10 gold coins decorated each coat sleeve. A \$50 gold piece dangled from his watch chain. The coins were held in place with bands. "I am Fred McCormick," he said in introducing himself. "I am a land agent living near Reno, Nev."

Have you heard this story? The Crown Prince having a nice little chat with his father, the Butcher of Potsdam, and apropos of nothing said, "Father who started this war?" "I know" said his father playfully, "but I won't tell." Did cousin George start it? persisted the youth. No. Did cousin Nicholas? No, said papa. Did Francis-Joseph? No, said the old man. Well, who did then? I'll tell you, son: You remember Teddy Roosevelt came out of Central Africa and called on us several years ago, and I showed him our great and glorious navy; I showed him the Zepps and the submarines, and the gas bags, and Teddy greatly impressed, slapped me on the shoulder and said: "Bill, my boy, you can lick the world," and like a damned fool I believed him.--Ex.

FIND BONES OF A DRAGON

Fossil Remains of Specimen 60 Feet in Length Unearthed in China.

Shanghai, China.--This is the dragon year in Japan, and it is appropriate that that prehistoric beast should emerge from the well-known "mist of ages" and take his place as a forerunner fossil. In testimony that this may be, we have the story of a correspondent of the Times:

"That the dragon once existed in China we can no longer doubt, for we have seen fossilized specimens of him, Doctor Irwin of Tientsin, while staying here for some days, explored the river banks at the entrance to the gorges. In a cave was found what is undoubtedly the fossil remains of a kind of dragon.

"A large specimen measures 60 feet in length, while there are also several small or young ones. This is an interesting discovery, and has naturally aroused considerable talk among the Chinese, who can now without exaggeration declare that they have seen what every respectable Chinese of mature age likes to say he has seen, a dragon, though in this instance a fossilized one. A small portion has been shipped off and sent to the British museum."

SUNFLOWERS A PAYING CROP

Raised by Farmers in Southeast Missouri on as Large a Scale as Corn.

Kansas City, Mo.--In southeast Missouri farmers raise sunflowers to feed chickens. Many farmers in New Madrid county, Missouri, are growing sunflowers for seed on as large a scale as they grow corn.

The seed is high in oil and protein and makes an excellent feed. It is used chiefly as a feed for parrots and as a part of the commercial poultry feeds. The seed is purchased each fall by general seed buyers from St. Louis.

The soils in which sunflowers are grown are the once swampy lands and range from sandy loams to clays. The average production is about 8,000 to 15,000 pounds of seed to the acre. The usual selling price is from 2 1/4 to 4 cents a pound. The average return is about \$40 for each acre. Some of the farmers are growing the sunflowers in place of corn.

The crop is planted about the same as corn. In the labor required in handling and cultivation, the two crops are alike. When the crop matures, a wagon is taken into the field and the heads are cut off and thrown into the wagon. The seeds are then threshed out with a threshing machine.